(a) the details of funds given to Kendriya Vidyalaya No. 1, Air Force Station, Agra, for various purposes, during financial years 2007-08 and 2008-09;

(b) whether any audit has been conducted of the expenditures by this school during these financial years;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any misappropriation of the funds have come to notice;

(e) whether Government is aware of the misuse of funds in the purchases and other expenditures during these financial years in this school; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Amounts of Rs. 143.20 lakh and Rs. 236.60 lakh were released to Kendriya Vidyalaya No. 1, Air Force Station, Agra during the financial years 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Internal audit of K.V. No. 1, AFS, Agra was conducted for the period from 01/01/2007 to 31/08/2008. No misappropriation of funds has been reported in the above said audit report.

(e) and (f) A complaint has been received regarding financial irregularities done by the Principal and it is under examination with Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan.

Benefit of SSA to depressed Muslims

1908. DR. EJAZ ALI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is able to achieve the desired results, as promised at the time of launch of the so called programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof highlighting the statistics of its reach to the depressed Muslim class; and

(c) what steps the present Government intends to take in case the depressed Muslims class has not benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) has made significant progress in its overall goals of universal access and retention, bridging of gender and social category gaps in education, and enhancing learning levels.

SSA provides for the following targeted interventions in order to reach Muslim children:-

- Focus on provision of schools in Muslim Minority Concentration districts.
- Support Madarsas and Maktabs by providing EGS/AIE facility for regular curriculum transaction.

- Provide for Urdu text books for Urdu medium schools and also for those teaching Urdu as a subject.
- KGBVs have been sanctioned in 427 blocks with Muslim population above 20%;
- KGBV guidelines provide for two Urdu teachers, if there is a demand for Urdu as a medium of instruction in those schools.

Class X examination as an option

1909. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to make class X examination optional;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether several State Governments have resented the move; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The National Curriculum Framework – 2005 has recommended that the Board should consider, as a long term measure, making the Class-X Examination optional, thus permitting students continuing in the same school (and who do not need a Board Certificate) to take an internal school examination instead. A proposal to make the Class-X Examination optional for students continuing in the same school, for schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), is under consideration. However, there is no such proposal as far as State Examination Boards are concerned.

Literacy improvement in the country

1910. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number and percentage of illiterate people throughout the country at present, Age-wise and State-wise;

(b) the statistics pertaining to SC/ST/OBC/Women as regards literacy;

(c) whether according to the World Education Report 2005, of the 771 million adult illiterates in the world, 262 million are Indians; and

(d) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to improve literacy scenario?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Based on the decennial Census 2001, a statement indicating the number and percentage of illiterate people SC, ST and women is enclosed (*See* below). The data for OBC has not been estimated during Census 2001.